THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) A Conference of Power Ministers of some States was held in Delhi on 15th July, 1986. Discussion was held on various matters which have a bearing on improving the power availability such as commissioning of new projects, better utilisation of existing capacity, renovation and modernisation programme etc. The main conclusions reached were that these States would pay greater attention to expeditious commissioning of on-going power projects, early stabilisation of newly commissioned units, improving the utilisation of the existing capacities of thermal power stations to improve the PLF, accelerate the pace of progress of renovation and modernisation of Thermal Power Stations and reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

Oil exploration and exploitation

1789. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has prepared a long term plan for oil exploration and exploitation to move ahead towards the goal of self-sufficiency; and

(b) if so, what are the details in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) ONGC had prepared a 20 year perspective plan for 1985—2005. This envisaged a total production of 100 million tonnes of oil and oil equivalent of gas by 2005 A.D. Of the various alternatives developed, the 3 preferred alternatives envisaged oil-production of 50, 55 and 60 million tonnes respectively by 2005 A.D.; the balance being made up by production of gas. These alternatives aimed at self-sufficiency in oil in the range of 67 per cent to 80 per cent.

Plant Load Factor

1790. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the national average of plant load factor;

(b) what are the names of the States which have achieved this national average and of those which have yet to achieve it;

(c) what is the average percentage in each of these States, which have not achieved it; and

(d) what measures have been taken to improve the performance of power stations and minimise transmission losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The all India average plant load factor of thermal power stations during 1985-86 was 52.4 per cent.

(b) and (c) The statewise details of plant load factor during 1985-86 are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

(d) The measures taken to improve the performance of thermal power stations include implementation of the centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation scheme, improvement in quality of coal, upgradation of the skills of operation and maintenance staff, early stabilisation of newly commissioned units and reduction in the outage periods of thermal units.